

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for transmitting connection data in a communications system from a server communications device, to a data access device, comprising the steps of:
- 5            sending, from the server communications device, to the data access device, a storage capability request for determining storage capability of the data access device;
- receiving, at the server communications device, a storage capability reply from the data access device; and
- 10            sending, based upon the storage capability reply, the connection data from the server communications device to the data access device for storage on the data access device.
2. A method for retrieving connection data in a communications system comprising the step of:
- 15            sending, from a server communications device, to a data access device, a connection data request;
- receiving, at the server communications device, the connection data from the data access device; and
- storing the connection data in the data access device in a non-permanent
- 20            manner.
3. The method of Claim 2 wherein the connection data request comprises offset and length parameters.
4. The method of Claim 2 further comprising the step of:

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11. The method of Claim 2 wherein the data access device is an analog modem, a digital subscriber line modem, an integrated services digital network modem, a cable modem, a power line modem or a wireless modem.
12. An apparatus for transmitting connection data in a communications system from a server communications device, to a data access device, comprising:
- 5 a first logic circuit sending a storage capability request message, for determining storage capability of the data access device, from the server communications device to the data access device;
- 10 a second logic circuit sending a storage capability reply message from the data access device to the server communications device; and
- a third logic circuit sending a connection data buffer to the data access device from the server communications device, based upon the storage capability reply message.
13. An apparatus for retrieving connection data in a communications system comprising:
- 15 a first logic circuit sending a connection data request message from a server communications device to a data access device, for requesting connection data;
- 20 a second logic circuit receiving the connection data from the data access device; and
- wherein the connection data is stored in the data access device in a non-permanent manner.
14. The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the connection data request message comprises offset and length parameters.
- 25 15. The apparatus of Claim 13 further comprising:

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23. An apparatus for transmitting connection data in a communications system from a server communications device, to a data access device, comprising:

a means for receiving, at the server communications device, a storage capability reply message from the data access device; and

24. An apparatus for retrieving connection data in a communications system comprising:

a means for sending, from a server communications device, to a data access device, a connection data request message;

a means for receiving, at the server communications device, the connection data from the data access device; and

25. A computer program product comprising:

a computer usable medium storing a set of computer instructions for:

sending, from the server communications device, to the data access device, a storage capability request for determining storage capability of the data access device;

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receiving, at the server communications device, a storage capability reply from the data access device; and

sending, based upon the storage capability reply, the connection data from the server communications device to data access device for storage on the data access device.

26. A computer program product comprising:

a computer usable medium storing a set of computer instructions for:  
sending, from a server communications device, to a data access device, a  
connection data request;

receiving, at the server communications device, the connection data from the data access device; and

wherein the connection data is stored in the data access device in a non-permanent manner.

27. A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave comprising a code segment for:

sending, from the server communications device, to the data access device, a storage capability request for determining storage capability of the data access device;

receiving, at the server communications device, a storage capability reply from the data access device; and

sending, based upon the storage capability reply, the connection data from the server communications device to data access device for storage on the data access device.

28. A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave comprising a code segment for:

sending, from a server communications device, to a data access device, a connection data request;

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receiving, at the server communications device, the connection data from the  
data access device; and

wherein the connection data is stored in the data access device in a non-  
permanent manner.

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